



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/665,347	09/22/2003	Teruyuki Maruyama	243043US2	7039
22850 7590 07/20/2011 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
EXAMINER LAI, MICHAEL C				
ART UNIT 2457		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 07/20/2011		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com
oblonpat@oblon.com
jgardner@oblon.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/665,347

Applicant(s)

MARUYAMA, TERUYUKI

Examiner

MICHAEL C. LAI

Art Unit

2457

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 April 2011.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 76-86 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 76-86 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is responsive to amendment filed on 4/29/2011.

Response to Amendment

2. The examiner has acknowledged the amended claims 76, 80-82, and new claims 83-86. The 112 second paragraph rejections to claims 76-79 and 82 have been addressed and withdrawn accordingly. Claims 76-86 are pending.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 4/29/2011 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In the remarks, the applicant argues in substance that: **A)** With respect to the rejections of Claims 76-82 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, Applicant respectively submits that the present amendments to the claims, to recite "to print, onto a printable surface of a recording medium," overcome these grounds of rejection. **B)** Iwata does not disclose or suggest "a list reception unit configured to transmit a first transmission request for a list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus and to receive the list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus, an operation unit configured to select a desired image data or document from the list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus, a request transmission unit configured to transmit a second

transmission request for sending the desired image data or document to the other image forming apparatus,” as recited in Claim 76.

In response to **A)**, the examiner does not find proper descriptions for the amended limitation “...configured to print, onto a printable surface of a recording medium of...” in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Note that the recording medium is described in the specification as for storing a program to cause a terminal to execute a procedure, not for printing. Applicant may consider using terms other than “recording medium”.

In response to **B)**, Iwata discloses a printer includes a reference information acquisition section for acquiring a list of reference information of documents available in the server according to a request from the computer, and a reference information transmission section for transmitting the acquired list of the reference information to the computer. The server sends back the list of the reference information of the documents to the printer in response to a request from the printer [see at least col. 3, lines 50-64]. Iwata further discloses a method includes the steps of (a) causing the computer to send a list acquisition request to the user-selected printer requesting it to acquire a list of reference information of documents available in the server, (b) causing the printer to send a list transmission request to the server requesting it to send back the list of the reference information of the documents in accordance with the list acquisition

request, (c) causing the server to send back the list of the reference information of the documents available in the server to the printer in accordance with the list transmission request, (d) causing the printer to send data on the list of the reference information received from the server to the computer, (e) causing the computer to present a selection entry display based on the data on the list of the reference information received from the printer, enabling the user to specify the desired document, (f) causing the computer to send a print request to the printer, the print request including the reference information of the document specified by the user on the selection entry display, and (g) causing the printer to acquire data on the user-specified document from the server based on the reference information included in the print request and print out the document [see at least col. 4, lines 8-32, and col. 5, lines 44-65]. As such, Iwata does suggest "a list reception unit configured to transmit a first transmission request for a list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus and to receive the list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus, an operation unit configured to select a desired image data or document from the list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus, a request transmission unit configured to transmit a second transmission request for sending the desired image data or document to the other image forming apparatus," as recited in Claim 76.

Thus, in view of the foregoing, the rejection is sustained as follows:

Specification

4. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Objections

5. Claim 82 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 18, the term "cause the transmit the print setting information" should be "transmit the print setting information".
6. Claim 85 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 3, the term "originate" should be "originates".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

8. Claims 76-86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Applicant indicated that support for amended claims 76, 80-82, and new claims 83-86 can be found throughout the original specification, including at page

116, line 9 to page 118, line 4; page 133, line 10 to page 135, line 10 and Figures 22 and 24. However, the examiner does not find proper descriptions for the new limitation "...configured to print, onto a printable surface of a recording medium of..." in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Note that the recording medium is described in the specification as for storing a program to cause a terminal to execute a procedure, not for printing.

All dependent claims are rejected too as having the same deficiencies as the claims they depend from.

9. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

10. Claims 76-86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 76 recites the limitation of "...a list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus... select a desired image data or document from the list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus" in lines 7-12. It is unclear why the selection is needed since there is only one image data (the first image data) or one document (the first document) in the list (see other limitations in the claim).

Claims 80 and 81 recite similar limitations as claim 76. They are rejected for the same reason as for claim 76.

Claim 86 recites the limitation "the document **destination source** apparatus" in lines 1-2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 86 recites the limitation "the **destination source** apparatus" in line 8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

All dependent claims are rejected too as having the same deficiencies as the claims they depend from.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 76, 79-83, 85, and 86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwata (US 6,778,289 B1, hereinafter Iwata), and in view of Delaney (US 6,831,754 B1, hereinafter Delaney).

Regarding claim 76, Iwata discloses an image forming apparatus [Fig. 4, E101 Printer] configured to serve as a document destination apparatus for receiving and printing first image data or a first document stored in an other image forming apparatus, the image forming apparatus comprising:

a list reception unit configured to transmit a first transmission request for a list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image

forming apparatus and to receive the list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus [see at least col. 3, lines 50-64],

an operation unit configured to select a desired image data or document from the list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus [see at least col. 4, lines 8-32, and col. 5, lines 44-65],

a request transmission unit configured to transmit a second transmission request for sending the desired image data or document to the other image forming apparatus [see at least col. 4, lines 8-32, and col. 5, lines 44-65],

a communication unit configured to communicate with the other image forming apparatus connected via a network [Fig. 3, P106 LAN Interface and col. 5, lines 33-36];

a document reception unit configured to transmit a third transmission request for the first image data or the first document to the other image forming apparatus and to receive the first image data or the first document transmitted by the other image forming apparatus [Fig. 6, M108 Document Data Acquisition Unit and col. 8, lines 43-56];

a second printing unit configured to print, onto a printable surface of a recording medium of the image forming apparatus, the first image data or the first document received from the other image forming apparatus via the document reception unit [Fig. 3, P107 Print Engine, col. 5, lines 36-38, and

col. 8, lines 50-56; Fig. 6, M109 Image Rendering Unit, M110 Image Forming Unit and col. 9, lines 15-22];

a second document storage unit configured to store the second image data or the second document [Fig. 3, P103 RAM and col. 5, lines 27-30].

Iwata discloses the claimed invention except for wherein the image forming apparatus is configured to serve as a document source apparatus having a document management unit configured to, , in response to receipt of a fourth transmission request for the second image data or the second document stored in the second document storage unit from the other image forming apparatus, transmit the second image data or the second document stored in the second document storage unit to the other image forming apparatus via the communication unit . However, Delaney teaches a system for printer-to-printer remote printing of images. In Delaney's system, digital images are sent to a recipient using a sender printer. The sender printer is Internet-enabled and the image is sent directly from the sender printer to the recipient device which can also comprise an Internet-enabled printer. In such way, printer-to-printer sending is possible [see at least the abstract, Figs. 1-3 and col. 1, lines 49-60]. Delaney further discloses that each of the image sending and printing system and the image receiving and printing system has a memory and an output device normally comprises a printer or printing mechanism [see Figs. 2, 3, and col. 2 line 54 through col. 3 line 41]. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Delaney's teaching into Iwata's system for the purpose of highly automating sending and printing images by configuring the image forming apparatus also as a document source apparatus for transmitting second image data or a second document stored therein to the other image forming apparatus, thereby making printer-to-printer sending possible [col. 1, lines 44-60].

Regarding claim 79, Iwata further discloses wherein the network comprises a wired LAN or a wireless LAN [Fig. 3 and 4].

Regarding claim 80, Iwata discloses an image forming system comprising: a document destination apparatus being coupled to a document source apparatus via a network, the document destination apparatus including

a list reception unit configured to transmit the first transmission request for the list of the image data or the document stored in the document storage unit of the document source apparatus and to receive the list of the image data or the document stored in the document storage unit transmitted by the document source apparatus [see at least col. 3, lines 50-64],

an operation unit configured to select a desired image data or document from the list of the image data or the document stored in the document storage unit of the document source apparatus [see at least col. 4, lines 8-32, and col. 5, lines 44-65],

a request transmission unit configured to transmit a third transmission request for sending the desired image data or document to the document source apparatus [see at least col. 4, lines 8-32, and col. 5, lines 44-65],

a document reception unit configured to transmit the transmission request for the image data or the document to the document source apparatus and to receive the image data or the document transmitted by the document source apparatus [Fig. 6, M108 Document Data Acquisition Unit and col. 8, lines 43-56],

a second printing unit configured to print, onto a recording medium of the document destination apparatus, the image data or the document received from the document source apparatus by the document reception unit [Fig. 3, P107 Print Engine, col. 5, lines 36-38, and col. 8, lines 50-56; Fig. 6, M109 Image Rendering Unit, M110 Image Forming Unit and col. 9, lines 15-22].

Iwata discloses the claimed invention except for a document storage unit configured to store image data or a document, a first printing unit configured to print, onto a printable surface of a recording medium of the document source apparatus, the image data or the document, a display management unit configured to transmit, in response to receipt of a first transmission request for displaying a list of the image data or the document stored in the document storage unit, the list of the image data or the document stored in the document storage unit for displaying on an operation unit in a document destination

apparatus, and a document management unit configured to, in response to receipt of a transmission request for the image data or the document from a document destination apparatus, transmit the image data or the document stored in the document storage unit to the document destination apparatus via a communication unit. However, Delaney teaches a system for printer-to-printer remote printing of images. In Delaney's system, digital images are sent to a recipient using a sender printer. The sender printer is Internet-enabled and the image is sent directly from the sender printer to the recipient device which can also comprise an Internet-enabled printer. In such way, printer-to-printer sending is possible [see at least the abstract, Figs. 1-3 and col. 1, lines 49-60]. Delaney further discloses that each of the image sending and printing system and the image receiving and printing system has a memory and an output device normally comprises a printer or printing mechanism [see Figs. 2, 3, and col. 2 line 54 through col. 3 line 41]. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Delaney's teaching into lwata's system for the purpose of highly automating sending and printing images by configuring the image forming apparatus also as a document source apparatus for transmitting second image data or a second document stored therein to the other image forming apparatus, thereby making printer-to-printer sending possible [col. 1, lines 44-60].

Regarding claim 81, lwata discloses an image forming system comprising:

a document destination apparatus comprising a second print forming unit configured to print, onto a printable surface of a recording medium of the document destination apparatus, the image data or the document received from the document source apparatus by a document reception unit [Fig. 4, E101; Fig. 3, P107 Print Engine, col. 5, lines 36-38, and col. 8, lines 50-56; Fig. 6, M109 Image Rendering Unit, M110 Image Forming Unit and col. 9, lines 15-22],

the information processing apparatus being coupled to the document source apparatus [Fig. 4, E103 Server] and the document destination apparatus via a network, the information processing apparatus comprising a print request unit [Fig. 5, and col. 6, lines 37-67] configured to issue a print request for the image data or the document stored in the document source apparatus to the document destination apparatus, the print request causing the document destination apparatus to communicate with the document source apparatus and to acquire and print the image data or the document stored in the storage device of the document source apparatus [Fig. 4, E102 Computer; col. 6, lines 37-67], a list reception unit configured to transmit the first transmission request for the list of the image data or the document stored in the storage device of the document source apparatus and to receive the list of the image data or the document stored in the storage device transmitted by the document source apparatus [see at least col. 3, lines 50-64], an operation unit configured to select a desired image data or document from the list of the

image data or the document stored in the storage device of the document source apparatus [see at least col. 4, lines 8-32, and col. 5, lines 44-65], and a request transmission unit configured to transmit a third transmission request for sending the desired image data or document to the document source apparatus [see at least col. 4, lines 8-32, and col. 5, lines 44-65].

Iwata discloses the claimed invention except for a document source apparatus including a storage device configured to store image data or a document, the document source apparatus comprising a first print forming unit configured to print, onto a printable surface of a recording medium of the document source apparatus, the image data or the document stored in the storage device, and a display management unit configured to transmit, in response to receipt of a first transmission request for displaying a list of the image data or the document stored in the storage device, the list of the image data or the document stored in the storage device for displaying on an operation unit in an information processing apparatus. However, Delaney teaches a system for printer-to-printer remote printing of images. In Delaney's system, digital images are sent to a recipient using a sender printer. The sender printer is Internet-enabled and the image is sent directly from the sender printer to the recipient device which can also comprise an Internet-enabled printer. In such way, printer-to-printer sending is possible [see at least the abstract, Figs. 1-3 and col. 1, lines 49-60]. Delaney further discloses that each of the image sending

and printing system and the image receiving and printing system has a memory and an output device normally comprises a printer or printing mechanism [see Figs. 2, 3, and col. 2 line 54 through col. 3 line 41]. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Delaney's teaching into Iwata's system for the purpose of highly automating sending and printing images by configuring the image forming apparatus also as a document source apparatus for transmitting second image data or a second document stored therein to the other image forming apparatus, thereby making printer-to-printer sending possible [col. 1, lines 44-60].

Regarding claim 82, Iwata further discloses wherein the document destination apparatus comprises

a setting information acquisition unit configured to, in response to the print request for the image data or the document stored in the storage device of the server from the information processing apparatus, transmit to the document source apparatus a transmission request for print setting information to be used by the server [Fig. 6, M104 Document Information Processor and col. 7, lines 37-42];

a document acquisition unit configured to transmit a document acquisition request to the server to acquire the image data or the document from the server [Fig. 6, M108 Document Data Acquisition Unit and col. 8, lines 43-56]; wherein

the second print forming unit is configured to print the image data or the document stored in the server based on the print setting information [Fig. 3, P107 Print Engine, col. 5, lines 36-38, and col. 8, lines 50-56; Fig. 6, M109 Image Rendering Unit, M110 Image Forming Unit and col. 9, lines 15-22].

Iwata discloses the claimed invention except for: a setting information transmission unit and a document transmission unit for the document source apparatus. As discussed above, Delaney teaches a system for printer-to-printer remote printing of images. In Delaney's system, digital images are sent to a recipient using a sender printer. The sender printer is Internet-enabled and the image is sent directly from the sender printer to the recipient device which can also comprise an Internet-enabled printer. In such way, printer-to-printer sending is possible [see at least the abstract, Figs. 1-3 and col. 1, lines 49-60]. Delaney further discloses that each of the image sending and printing system and the image receiving and printing system has a sending/printing controller [see Figs. 2, 3, and col. 2 line 54 through col. 3 line 41]. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Delaney's teaching into Iwata's system for the purpose of highly automating sending and printing images by configuring a setting information transmission unit and a document transmission unit for the document source apparatus the same as for the document destination apparatus, thereby making printer-to-printer sending possible [col. 1, lines 44-60].

Regarding claim 83, Iwata and Delaney further disclose a display unit configured to display [Delaney: col. 3, lines 8-13] the received list of the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus [Iwata: col. 3, lines 56-64]; and a desired item reception unit configured to receive the desired image data or document transmitted from the other image forming apparatus [Iwata: col. 4, lines 29-32] and to display the desired image data or document on the display unit [Delaney: col. 3, lines 8-13]. See claim 76 for motivation.

Regarding claim 85, Iwata further discloses wherein each of the first transmission request and the second transmission request transmitted to the other image forming apparatus originate from the image forming apparatus [see at least col. 3, lines 50-64].

Regarding claim 86, Iwata and Delaney further disclose wherein the document destination source apparatus further includes: a desired image transmitting unit configured to, in response to the third transmission request for sending the desired image data or document from the document destination apparatus, transmit the desired image data or document [Delaney: Figs. 2, 3, and col. 2 line 54 through col. 3 line 41]; and the document destination apparatus further includes: a desired image reception unit configured to receive the desired image data or document transmitted from the destination source apparatus [Iwata: col. 4, lines 29-32] and to display the received desired image data or

document on a display unit [Delaney: col. 3, lines 8-13]. See claim 80 for motivation.

13. Claims 77-78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwata and Delaney as applied to claim 76, and further in view of Butterworth et al. (US 2004/0133656 A1, hereinafter Butterworth).

Regarding claim 77, Iwata and Delaney disclose the claimed invention except for wherein the document reception unit receives the first image data or the first document stored in the other image forming apparatus from the other image forming apparatus through a web service for providing the first image data or the first document in a SOAP based HTTP response in response to a SOAP based HTTP request indicative of the first transmission request for the first image data or the first document. However, Butterworth teaches that messages between clients and web services may use SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) based HTTP [para. 0012]. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Butterworth's teaching into Iwata's and Delaney's system for the purpose of defining a uniform way of passing XML-encoded data and defining a way to perform remote procedure calls using HTTP (or another transport protocol) as the underlying communication protocol by using a SOAP, thereby increasing the opportunities for reuse, as the service places essentially no constraints on the platform, language, or location of its clients [para. 0012].

Regarding claim 78, Iwata and Delaney disclose the claimed invention except for wherein the document management unit comprises a web service for providing the second image data or the second document in a SOAP based HTTP response in response to a SOAP based HTTP request indicative of the second transmission request for the second image data or the second document. However, Butterworth teaches that messages between clients and web services may use SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) based HTTP [para. 0012]. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Butterworth's teaching into Iwata's and Delaney's system for the purpose of defining a uniform way of passing XML-encoded data and defining a way to perform remote procedure calls using HTTP (or another transport protocol) as the underlying communication protocol by using a SOAP, thereby increasing the opportunities for reuse, as the service places essentially no constraints on the platform, language, or location of its clients [para. 0012].

14. Claim 84 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwata and Delaney as applied to claim 76, and further in view of Azami (US 2003/0231345 A1, hereinafter Azami).

Regarding claim 84, Iwata and Delaney disclose the claim invention for image data or documents, but not for thumbnails. However, thumbnails are well known in the art as evidenced by Azami [see at least para. 0032, 0039]. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to incorporate Azami's teaching into Iwata's and Delaney's system in order to display the images in the much reduced thumbnail mode, therefore allowing quick browsing through multiple images or pages,

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially

teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

In the case of amending the claimed invention, Applicant is respectfully requested to indicate the portion(s) of the specification which dictate(s) the structure relied on for proper interpretation and also to verify and ascertain the metes and bounds of the claimed invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL C. LAI whose telephone number is (571)270-3236. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service

Art Unit: 2457

Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Michael C. Lai
08JLY2011

/ARIO ETIENNE/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2457